

## Enterprise Systems: Applications Platform Suite (APS)

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**Definition(s):**

Application Platform Suite (APS) is the software support infrastructure that enables delivery of mission critical services and information using web based technologies and methodologies. The core defining components of an Application Platform Suite include an Enterprise Application Server, an Integration Broker Suite, and a Portal. APS includes the web servers, web application servers, integration brokers, portal services such as personalization and collaboration, and wireless and telephony software support components that comprise the framework for a web support infrastructure. These infrastructure technology components may be configured to support a variety of web based applications ranging from a simple inquiry-response web site all the way through an enterprise portal. An APS can be assembled from component parts or from a single product. Even though an APS is comprised of several components, depending upon vendor packaging, State organizations should select only those components necessary to support their web application requirements.

The APS standard shall apply to implementations that include any two of the three core components; or implementations that include the deployment of an Enterprise Application Server (an application server intended to support 500 or more users).

**Rationale:**

An application platform suite offers a productive, simple, and effective environment of maintenance and management for the development and deployment of complex e-business applications. Although an APS can offer a variety of value added enhancements, by its minimal definition it addresses the mission critical components for web based application development. These critical components include web servers for interface presentation, application servers for personalization, data collection, and interactive dynamic content generation, a portal for single point access, information sharing, and integration for pulling together content from multiple sources. The results are increased technical performance and reliability, centralized common processes for technical risk reduction, rapid deployment of new services, more precise relevance of information for end users, and across the board cost savings for state government.

**Approved Standards:**

APS shall support the following technical specifications

**Web Server**

- Cross platform support
- HTTP/ 1.1
- SSL
- SSI

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## Application Server/Portal/Commerce

- J2EE
  - JDBC
  - EJB
  - JTS/JTA
  - Servlet
  - JSP
- LDAP
- HTML (DHTML)
- SOAP
- SSL
- UDDI
- WSDL
- XHTML
- XML/XSL

**Approved Products:**

IBM Websphere Series:

Websphere Edge Server, Websphere Application Server, Websphere Portal Server, Websphere Studio Application Developer, Websphere Commerce, IBM HTTP Server, Websphere Studio Asset Analyzer, Websphere Application Monitor, Websphere Integrator Broker, and Tivoli Site Manager.

**Guidelines/Technical Considerations:**

Agencies are recommended to match current and expected needs with the list of approved products. It is not necessary to purchase the full suite of products to satisfy individual requirements for application development, web server, or portal. Agencies should purchase only what is needed from the list of approved products.

**Review Cycle:**

As Needed

**Timeline:**

Issued February 2004

**Procurement:**

Pricing shall be based on the Office of State Purchasing Contract #405466. Under this contract agencies directly purchase (1) Websphere software components, (2) Integration and Installation

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support, (3) training, and (4) software maintenance support. APS products and support are acquired from one or both of two price lists: (1) the IBM 390/ Z-Series (Mainframe) price list and, (2) the Passport Advantage price list. *For IBM 390/Z-Series products, the state receives a 50% discount off the standard price list for product licenses and a 40% discount for annual maintenance and support subscriptions. For Passport Advantage products the state receives a 70% discount off the Level A standard price list product licenses, which includes the first year of maintenance and support, and a 50% discount for continuing annual support and maintenance subscriptions. Most training is at a 10% discount for on site training.*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_